

House Study Bill 153 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON MILLER)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the respiratory syncytial virus season and
2 the coverage of prescription drugs that protect against the
3 respiratory syncytial virus under the medical assistance
4 program.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS SEASON AND COVERAGE.

2 1. The department of human services shall establish and
3 employ a definition for the respiratory syncytial virus season
4 that is consistent with the definition established by the
5 centers for disease control and prevention of the United States
6 department of health and human services, which provides that
7 the respiratory syncytial virus season onset is the first of
8 two consecutive weeks during which the mean percentage of
9 respiratory syncytial virus specimens is greater than or equal
10 to ten percent, and the respiratory syncytial virus season
11 offset is the last of two consecutive weeks during which the
12 mean percentage of positive specimens is less than or equal to
13 ten percent.

14 2. The department of human services shall use Iowa virology
15 data collected by the Iowa department of public health and
16 reported on the department of public health's internet site to
17 prospectively estimate the start of the respiratory syncytial
18 virus season and follow the respiratory syncytial virus season
19 to the end.

20 3. The department of human services shall provide coverage
21 of prescription drugs that protect against respiratory
22 syncytial virus by November 1 of each year or at least
23 thirty days prior to the five-year median onset date of the
24 respiratory syncytial virus season for premature infants
25 or other pediatric patients determined to be at risk for
26 respiratory syncytial virus disease who are eligible for or
27 qualified to receive medical assistance coverage under chapter
28 249A.

29 4. The department of human services shall adopt rules to
30 implement the requirements of this section.

31 EXPLANATION

32 This bill relates to the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)
33 season and the coverage of prescription drugs that protect
34 against RSV.

35 The bill requires the department of human services (DHS)

1 to establish and use a definition for the RSV season that is
2 consistent with the definition established by the centers for
3 disease control and prevention of the United States department
4 of health and human services, which provides that the onset of
5 the RSV season occurs the first of two consecutive weeks when
6 the mean percentage of all RSV specimens is greater than or
7 equal to 10 percent. The RSV season offset occurs the last
8 of two consecutive weeks when the mean percentage of positive
9 specimens is less than or equal to 10 percent.

10 The bill also requires DHS to use virology data collected by
11 the Iowa department of public health to estimate the start of
12 the RSV season and follow the RSV season to the end.

13 The bill requires DHS to provide coverage of prescription
14 drugs that protect against RSV by November 1 of each year or
15 provide coverage at least 30 days prior to the five-year median
16 onset date of the RSV season to premature infants or pediatric
17 patients determined to be at risk for RSV who are eligible for
18 or qualified to receive coverage under Code chapter 249A.

19 The bill instructs DHS to adopt rules to implement the
20 requirements of the bill.